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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/081,647	02/21/2002	Takashi Nozaki	B-4511 619552-8	1969

36716 7590 10/05/2006

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EXAMINER
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TAYLOR, NICHOLAS R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/081,647

Applicant(s)

NOZAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Nicholas R. Taylor

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,7-9,11,12,15 and 16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,7-9,11,12,15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 15 and 16 have been presented for examination and are rejected.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed July 21st, 2006, have been fully considered but they are deemed not persuasive.
3. In the remarks, applicant argued in substance that:

(A) The prior art of Gifford fails to teach a call operation initiated to a link indicated by telephone number data.

As to point (A), Gifford teaches an e-mail system where telephone number data is added to an email message enabling directly placing calls from the email (Gifford, figure 5; see paragraphs 0038, 0040, and 0094-0100; fig. 2, item 202). In an example embodiment, the user interface displays a variety of response features. Among these, a telephone number is displayed which indicates a call operation that is initiated by a link (Gifford, fig. 2, see Sandra telephone number data which indicates the destination of the corresponding links in the lower elements).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata et al. (US PGPub 2001/0005854) and Gifford et al. (US PGPub 2002/0131561).

6. As per claims 1 and 9, Murata teaches an electronic mail processing system that processes email messages sent via a network, said system comprising:

a plurality of terminals each provided with a function to send and receive the email messages through said network; (Murata, paragraphs 0010 and 0053)

a user information storage device for storing user information corresponding to registered users; (Murata, figure 1, item 24; figure 3B; see specifically paragraph 0060)

an email adding device for referencing said user information storage device upon receipt of each of the email messages sent from said terminals, acquiring at least one predetermined item of said user information corresponding to users using said terminals, and adding said item of said user information to the email message; and (Murata, figure 1, items 21, 23, and 24; paragraphs 0052 and 0061)

an email forwarding device for forwarding the email message to which said predetermined item of said user information is added, to said terminals specified as recipients, (Murata, paragraph 0052, when server 20 transmits the email)

However, Murata fails to teach wherein said user information includes telephone number data, wherein said email adding device adds the telephone number data to the email message, and wherein said plurality of terminals include terminals having a telephone function by which a call operation is initiated to a link indicated by the telephone number data based on a predetermined operation.

Gifford teaches an e-mail system where telephone number data is added to an email message (Gifford, figure 5; see paragraphs 0094-0100) that enables directly placing calls from the email (Gifford, paragraphs 0038 and 0040, and figure 2, item 202).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have combined Murata and Gifford to provide the telephone functionality of Gifford in the system of Murata, because doing so would make contact via telephone upon receiving an email quicker, easier, and more user friendly than known methods by reducing the number of steps required (Gifford, paragraph 0009).

7. As per claims 4 and 11, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said user information includes position information, and wherein said email adding device adds the position information to the email message (Murata, figure 1, items 21, 23, and 24; paragraphs 0052, 0061, and 0062).

8. As per claims 5 and 12, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said user information includes position information and map link information corresponding to the position information, and wherein said email adding device adds the map link information to the email message, (Murata, figure 1, items 21, 23, and 24; paragraphs 0052, 0061, and 0062)

wherein when said plurality of terminals include terminals having an Internet access function and a display device, and (Murata, paragraph 0053)

wherein when said email forwarding device forwards the email message to which the map link information is added, the Internet access function allows map information to be acquired from an Internet site indicated by the map link information based on a predetermined operation, to display an image corresponding to the map information on said display device (Murata, paragraph 0053 and specifically the URL WWW link of paragraph 0062).

9. As per claim 7, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said plurality of terminals include portable terminals each provided with a function to send and receive the email messages by radiocommunication via base stations (Murata, paragraphs 0010 and 0053).

10. As per claim 8, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said portable terminals include portable terminals provided with said telephone function (Gifford, e.g. the digital phone of figure 3).

11. As per claim 15, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said plurality of terminals include portable terminals each provided with a function to send and receive the email messages by radiocommunication via base stations (Murata, paragraphs 0010 and 0053, e.g. car navigation systems).

12. As per claim 16, Murata-Gifford teaches the system further wherein said plurality of terminals include portable terminals each provided with a function to send and receive the email messages by radiocommunication via base stations (Murata, paragraphs 0010 and 0053, e.g. car navigation systems).

### ***Conclusion***

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Taylor whose telephone number is (571) 272-3889. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 5:30pm, with alternating Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3718.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nicholas Taylor  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2141

  
RUPAL DHARIA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER